

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 113787
ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SIG-03 SOE-02 AF-10
ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NASA-02 NEA-11 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02
PA-02 DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 ICA-20 /182 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE:PC

APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE

-----020477 042007Z /62

P 041905Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 113787

USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: MAY 4 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 113787

1. RICHARD BURT OF NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED THAT U.S., IN
COMPROMISE, TENTATIVELY HAS DECIDED TO ACCEPT SOVIET
PROPOSAL THAT WOULD LIMIT EACH SIDE TO 2,250 LONG-RANGE
MISSILES AND BOMBERS THROUGH 1985 IN SALT TWO AGREEMENT.
BURT SAID THIS TENTATIVE DECISION WOULD EQUALIZE FOR FIRST
TIME SIZE OF STRATEGIC ARSENALS. DECISION, BURT POINTED
OUT, APPARENTLY WAS MADE LAST WEEK AFTER VANCE RETURNED

FROM MOSCOW. "OFFICIALS SAID U.S. WAS READY TO AGREE TO HIGHER OVERALL FIGURE FAVORED BY RUSSIANS IF THEY AGREED TO SEPARATE CEILING OF 1,200 FOR MULTIPLE WARHEAD MISSILES. OFFICIALS SAID MOSCOW HAD PREVIOUSLY INDICATED THAT IT WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT, AND OFFICIALS EXPECT FORMAL AGREEMENT IN NEAR FUTURE." BURT SAID WITH THESE POINTS CLOSE TO RESOLUTION, OFFICIALS NOTED THAT ONLY TWO MAJOR ISSUES STAND IN WAY OF NEW SALT TREATY. "THEY SAID ONE--ON PERMISSIBLE MODERNIZATION OF WEAPONS SYSTEMS--STOOD GOOD CHANCE OF BEING SETTLED IN COMING WEEKS. THIS WOULD CLEAR WAY, THEY SAID, FOR MEETING THIS SUMMER BETWEEN PRESIDENT CARTER AND LEONID I. BREZHNEV, WHO WOULD THEN FOCUS ON CONTROVERSY OVER SOVIET BOMBER KNOWN IN WEST AS BACKFIRE." BURT SAID SOVIET UNION IS BELIEVED TO HAVE 2,500 STRATEGIC MISSILES AND BOMBERS, OR 400 MORE THAN U.S. IS PERMITTED TO HAVE UNDER SALT ONE. UNDER NEW LIMIT, SOVIETS WOULD HAVE TO RETIRE 250 MISSILES OR BOMBERS, AND U.S. WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED. OFFICIALS SAID THIS PROVISION MIGHT BE SELLING POINT IN GAINING SENATE APPROVAL FOR SALT TREATY, BURT EXPLAINED. "HOWEVER, PROPOSED CEILING IS HIGHER THAN ONE ORIGINALLY SOUGHT BY U.S. AND THUS IS STILL LIKELY TO ATTRACT CRITICISM ON CAPITOL HILL." BURT REPORTED THAT VANCE'S RECENT VISIT TO MOSCOW ALSO PRODUCED SOME PROGRESS ON ISSUE OF WHAT NEW MISSILES COULD BE DEPLOYED AND HOW FAR EXISTING SYSTEMS COULD BE MODERNIZED. "ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS, U.S., IN SHIFT FROM ITS PREVIOUS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 113787

POSITION, WAS PREPARED TO LET SOVIET UNION DEPLOY NEW, SINGLE WARHEAD, LAND-BASED MISSILE IF WASHINGTON WAS ALLOWED TO GO AHEAD WITH NEW LAND-BASED MISSILE EQUIPPED WITH MULTIPLE WARHEADS. MOSCOW DID NOT IMMEDIATELY ACCEPT PROPOSAL, THEY SAID, BUT IT HAS YET TO BE OFFICIALLY TURNED DOWN. AT SAME TIME, THEY REPORTED LITTLE PROGRESS ON CONTROVERSIAL BOMBER ISSUE." BURT SAID TO CEMENT ARRANGEMENT ON TOTAL NUMBERS OF PLANES OR MISSILES, OFFICIALS STATED TWO SIDES WILL HAVE TO AGREE ON EXACTLY WHAT FORCES ARE TO BE INCLUDED IN TREATY. "TO EASE PROBLEM, U.S. IS SAID TO HAVE RECENTLY AGREED THAT 50 SOVIET BOMBERS THAT ARE NOW USED AS TANKERS OR FOR NAVAL MISSIONS WOULD NOT BE INCLUDED. ADDITIONAL SPECIFICATIONS MUST STILL BE RESOLVED BEFORE CEILING CAN BE FORMALLY ADOPTED, BUT OFFICIALS SAID THEY EXPECTED LITTLE TROUBLE."

2. ROBERT KAISER OF WASHINGTON POST REPORTED THAT FIVE OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S SENIOR OFFICIALS CAME UNDER HEAVY POLITICAL FIRE YESTERDAY AS THEY APPEARED BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE DEFENDING CONTROVERSIAL PLAN TO SELL WARPLANES TO EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA, AND ISRAEL. "IN LONG DAY OF GENERALLY HOSTILE QUESTIONING, COMMITTEE'S

MEMBERS CONFIRMED PREDICTIONS THAT MOST OF THEM WOULD OPPOSE ADMINISTRATION'S SO-CALLED PACKAGE DEAL OF PLANE SALES....SCENE IN LARGE HEARING ROOM OF SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE WAS CLASSIC CONFRONTATION BETWEEN EXECUTIVE BRANCH'S REALPOLITIK AND CONCERNS OF MANY SENATORS ABOUT ARMING POTENTIAL ADVERSARIES IN SAME VOLATILE REGION OF WORLD. "ARGUING FOR REALPOLITIK," KAISER SAID, WERE SECRETARY VANCE, HIS DEPUTY, WARREN CHRISTOPHER, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BROWN, ACDA DIRECTOR WARNKE, AND AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF GEN. DAVID JONES. ALL SAID PACKAGE OF PLANE SALES WOULD STABILIZE MIDDLE EAST BY ENCOURAGING MODERATE ARABS WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING ISRAEL'S SECURITY, KAISER REPORTED.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 113787

3. MURREY MARDER OF WASHINGTON POST REPORTED THAT ALL 38 REPUBLICAN SENATORS, IN POLITICAL INDICTMENT OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN POLICY, "CHARGED THAT 'IN 15 SHORT MONTHS OF INCOHERENCE, INCONSISTENCY AND INEPTITUDE, OUR FOREIGN POLICY AND NATIONAL SECURITY OBJECTIVES ARE CONFUSED AND WE ARE BEING CHALLENGED AROUND GLOBE BY SOVIET ARROGANCE.'" MARDER SAID "29-PAGE CATECHISM OF FAULT-FINDING ON U.S. DEFENSE AND DIPLOMATIC POSTURE" AND REMARKS OF SEVERAL REPUBLICAN SENATORS AT CAPITOL HILL PRESS CONFERENCE "SHOWED THAT THEY SEE AS AN ESPECIALLY TEMPTING POLITICAL TARGET DRAWN-OUT NEGOTIATIONS NOW APPROACHING CONCLUSION IN AMERICAN-SOVIET NUCLEAR STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS TALKS." MARDER SAID WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT ABOUT ALARM REPUBLICANS SOUNDED IS THAT DOCUMENT WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY ALL REPUBLICAN SENATORS, ACROSS LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE SPECTRUM. RICHARD BURT OF NEW YORK TIMES SAID REPUBLICANS ATTACKED CONCESSIONS IN SALT NEGOTIATIONS AND ACCUSED CARTER ADMINISTRATION OF SEEKING ANY TREATY IT CAN GET, REGARDLESS OF CONSEQUENCES. SENATOR JOHN TOWER, HEAD OF GROUP THAT DRAFTED STATEMENT, SAID CURRENT TRENDS WOULD PRODUCE "TREATY WHICH WOULD PLACE U.S. AT STRATEGIC DISADVANTAGE." SENATOR HOWARD BAKER SAID HE FEARED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD YIELD TREATY THAT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO HIM AND MOST SENATE REPUBLICANS. BOTH TOWER AND BAKER PREDICTED THAT TREATY WOULD BE AN ISSUE IN THIS YEAR'S CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS, BURT SAID. CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, PRESS SUMMARIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE113787
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPMPOPE:PC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780191-0285
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780592/aaaadarl.tel
Line Count: 163
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bed798a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2790388
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAY 4 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL INTEREST LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR
TAGS: PARM, SOPN
To: GENEVA USSALTTWO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bed798a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014